

One Year Bible – Week 39

Summary: Ephesians Reading

The book of Ephesians is a book for the discouraged. It talks of Christian living but also the blessings that we have as believers in Jesus.

Summary: Isaiah Reading

The fourth section of the book of Isaiah, chapters 36-39, talk of king Hezekiah and the challenges he faces. The fifth section, chapters 40-48, suddenly change tone to a message of comfort in God's sovereignty.

Things to Look For and Questions to Ponder as You Read:

- *OT* – You may have heard Chris Tomlin's song "Everlasting God." Many songs have popularized words of Scripture. Read Isaiah 40:28-31. There is a certain magnificence that these words convey. What is the author saying. He is trying to convince the reader that God is the all powerful God who will sustain his people. What tone do you hear Isaiah speaking with as he writes these words? What tone do you hear God with as he speaks these words? The message for us is no less meaningful than the message to Isaiah's original readers. – *Sept 22*
- *OT* – Isaiah 43:4 is one of those occurrences in Scripture that show us that God is the same God throughout time. When speaking to his people he says, "you are precious and honored in my sight... I love you." We have seen God's wrath through the Old Testament, but we also see God's love. He is the same God today as he was then. He was the same God then as he is today. – *Sept 23*
- *OT* – The one and only God! Read Isaiah 43:10c; 44:6c; 45:5ab, 6b, 22b. Over and over again God says that he is the only God and there is no other. How can anyone sincerely believe in the God of the Bible and not believe what he says? – *Sept 24*

Small Group Questions:

- 1) *OT* – Read Isaiah 40:3-8. Summarize what Isaiah is saying in verses 3-5. What does this mean? What two things is Isaiah contrasting in verses 6-8? What is he saying about this contrast? How does the promise in verse 8 affect the way we live our lives? – *Sept 22*

- 2) *OT* – Read Isaiah 40:11; 41:9c-10, 13. What picture is given of God in each of these verses? Is the picture of God that is presented in these verses a challenge to you in any way? What is comforting about these verses? How might our lives look different if we lived with a constant, conscious awareness of the words in these verses? – *Sept 22*
- 3) *NT* – Read Gal 5:16-26. How would you describe living "by the spirit" to someone who is not a Christian? What in this passage characterizes life by the spirit? What is necessary to live by the spirit? How do we accomplish this? – *Sept 20*
- 4) *NT* – Read Gal 6:1-10. What is Paul saying in this passage? What does he mean by "deceived" here (v 7)? By "mocked" (v 7)? Paul is talking here to people who see themselves as right with God. How can we avoid being deceived and/or mocking God? – *Sept 21*
- 5) *NT* – Read Eph 2:1-10. Can you summarize what it means that we "were dead in (our) transgressions and sins" (v 1, 5)? That "we were by nature objects of wrath" (v 3b)? Based on what you read here, what would you say are significant aspects to our salvation? How are each of these related to our salvation (cite Scripture whenever possible): grace, faith, works? – *Sept 23*

Journal the Psalms this week:

Psalms 69 is an appeal to God for help. David talks of the "miry depths" and many other analogies to describe his pain in life. Read Psalm 69:1-18. What catches your attention about David's appeal? Can you relate to any of the words that David speaks here? What ultimately do you hear David asking God? How does David speak of other people in this Psalm? How does David see God? Journal your answers. – *Sept 26*

Reading Schedule:

Is = Isaiah / Gal = Galatians / Eph = Ephesians / Ps = Psalms /
Pr = Proverbs



Sept 20 – Is 33:13-36:22 / Gal 5:13-26 / Ps 64:1-10 / Pr 23:23
Sept 21 – Is 37:1-38:22 / Gal 6:1-18 / Ps 65:1-13 / Pr 23:24-25
Sept 22 – Is 39:1-41:16 / Eph 1:1-23 / Ps 66:1-20 / Pr 23:26-28
Sept 23 – Is 41:17-43:13 / Eph 2:1-22 / Ps 67:1-7 / Pr 23:29-35
Sept 24 – Is 43:14-45:10 / Eph 3:1-21 / Ps 68:1-18 / Pr 24:1-2
Sept 25 – Is 45:11-48:11 / Eph 4:1-16 / Ps 68:19-35 / Pr 24:3-4
Sept 26 – Is 48:12-50:11 / Eph 4:17-32 / Ps 69:1-18 / Pr 24:5-6